

In Honor of All Merchant Marine Veterans

Every man in this Allied command is quick to express his admiration for the loyalty, courage, and fortitude of the officers and men of the Merchant Marine. We count upon their efficiency and their utter devotion to duty as we do our own; they have never failed us yet and in all the struggles yet to come we know that they will never be deterred by any danger, hardship, or privation. When final victory is ours there is no organization that will share its credit more deservedly than the Merchant Marine.

Dwight D. Eisenhower, General of the Army, World War II

Congressman C.W. Bill Young Receives First Annual Congressional/Sea Services Award

By Elvira May, Office of Congressional and Public Affairs

On September 24, the National Capital Council of the Navy League of the United States honored Congressman C.W. Bill Young for his outstanding contributions to the sea services of the United States—the U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, and U.S. Merchant Marine.

The First Annual Congressional/Sea Services Award was presented at the Rayburn House Office Building in Washington, D.C., by Robert Ostrom, Chief Counsel of the Maritime

The Binnacle



Administration. Ostrom noted the long and distinguished public service history of Congressman Young, and presented him with a replica binnacle as a token of appreciation. (A binnacle is a stand of brass or non-magnetic

material for holding a compass as well as illuminating and compensating units, which is placed near the helm of a ship.) A restored authentic binnacle was loaned by MARAD to the Navy League, as outlined in a MARAD Historic Artifacts Loan Agreement, and it will be on public display at either a Navy League facility or at a public location determined by the Navy League. The first location is Congressman Young's office. The restored binnacle came from MARAD's Western Region's warehouse.



Left to Right: Mack Gaston, President of National Capital Council, Navy League of the United States; Congressman Young; Sheila McNeill, National President, Navy League of the United States; Robert Ostrom, Chief Counsel, Maritime Administration

Ostrom added, "As a representative of the Tenth Congressional District of Florida, Congressman Bill Young clearly understands the importance of building and maintaining a healthy maritime industry. He has been instrumental in providing jobs in the maritime industry—well paying and permanent jobs located right here in the United States." In addition, his commitment and dedication to the United States Merchant Marine Academy is exemplary.

Congressman Young's view of our nation's merchant marine and his vision for it was shaped early in life. As a teenager during World War II, he witnessed firsthand the role a strong merchant marine plays in the defense of freedom. He recognized that the merchant mariners and their ships were truly the lifeblood of Europe and the Allied forces. That lesson has stayed with him to this day as his appreciation of the critical role of commercial maritime operations plays in times of peace.